

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of diagnosing or monitoring colon cancer in a subject, comprising the steps of:

(a) detecting a level of expression of the G protein-coupled receptor 49 (GPR49) polypeptide in a biological sample of athe subject; and

(b) comparing said level to a control level of said-GPR49 polypeptide, wherein the GPR49 polypeptide is over-expressed in colon cancer tissues as compared to disease-free colon tissues.

2. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the biological sample is a colon tissue sample, a blood sample, or a bodily waste sample, and the control level is an average level of said polypeptide in control samples of disease-free subjects.

3–4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the subject has colon cancer.

6. (original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the subject is subject to a therapeutic treatment of said cancer.

7. (original) A method of diagnosing or monitoring colon cancer in a subject, comprising the steps of:

detecting an expression profile of one or more colon cancer genes in a biological sample of a subject; and

comparing the expression profile to a control expression profile of said one or more colon cancer genes, wherein each of said one or more colon cancer genes is

differentially expressed in colon cancer tissues as compared to disease-free colon tissues, wherein said one or more colon cancer genes is GPR49, which is over-expressed in colon cancer.

8. (canceled)